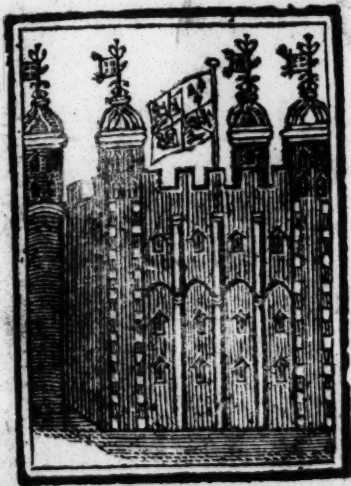


WHITE TOWER.



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CURIOSITIES

In the
Tower of London.

V O L. I.

The Second Edition.

Printed for *Tho. Boreman*,
Bookseller, near the two
giants in *Guildhall, Lon-*
don. 1741.

[Price Four pence]

Ch 740/7.



To the AUTHOR
Of the
CURIOSITIES
In the
Tower of London.

Too rigid precepts
often fail,
Where short amusing
tales prevail.

[vi]

That author, doubtless,
aims aright,
Who joins instruction
with delight.

Tom Thumb shall now
be thrown away,
And *Jack*, who did
the *Giants* slay ;
Such ill concerted,
artless lyes,
Our British Youth
shall now despise :

In

[vii]

In thy Gigantick works
they'll find
Something to please,
and form the mind.

Thy happy talent,
Friend, pursue;
In thy own way
search London thro':
Conduct thy Lilli-
putians round,
Where any curious
things are found.

In

A 4

What

What treasures in
 the Tow'r are laid,
 Are here —
 as in a glass, display'd.
 To Gresham College
 next repair,
 And shew the works
 of Nature there.
 Or, on the Abbey
 cast thy eye,
 Where British Bards
 and Heroes lie
 Obscur'd in ever-
 lasting night,

Who,

Who, living, were
 the world's delight.
 Thence may thy LITTLE
 READERS learn,
 That grandeur's vain,
 of no concern ;
 Since Death,
 with his impartial sting,
 Wounds both the beggar
 and the king.

Go on ———
 May all thy Volumes
 please !

ho,

Be

[x]

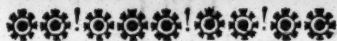
Be fill'd with lectures
such as these !
Meet with reception
from all hands,
And live as long
as Guildhall stands !

I am

thy affectionate friend,

and well-wisher,

A. Z.



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CURIO-





CURIOSITIES
In the
Tower of London.

BOOK I.

CHAP. I. *Of its Building, &c.*

THIS royal fortress
stands east of the city
of

of London, near the bank
of the Thames, where it
may defend or command
both.

The principal building,
and from which it has its
name, is the great white
square Tower in the mid-
dle. 'Tis a regular, strong,
lofty structure, and the old-
est within the walls, being
built by William the Con-
queror, in the year 1078.

There are besides several
other



other considerable buildings, that have been added to this grand fortress, at divers times since, of which I shall speak hereafter : the whole is encompassed with a strong wall, and that surrounded with a broad deep ditch, supplied with water out of the Thames.

The entrances into the Tower are over two bridges, one at the west end for carts, coaches, foot-passen-

passengers, &c. the other over a draw-bridge from the wharf on the south side, facing the Thames, for foot-passengers only. It has besides a passage from the river, call'd Traitor's-bridge ; because formerly, all persons committed to the Tower for treason were brought thro' it in boats.

The government of this important place, being of high

high honour, as well as of great trust, is generally committed to a peer of the realm, who is stiled *Constable of the Tower*: He has a deputy governor, and many other officers under him.



C H A P. II.

*Of the Lions, and other
wild beasts in the Tower.*

W H E N you have passed
the two soldiers, cal-
led *the spur-guard*, who
stand without the first gate,
you will see the figure of
a Lion, against the keep-
er's house, right before
you ; and another over the
door on your right hand,
where you are to enter to
see

see the curiosities — *Here each person pays Threepence for admittance.*

The wild creatures that are there shewn, are all kept in strong dens, so that you need not be under any fear of danger from them ; — Don't venture too near, and you may view them very safely.

The dens are made in the form the pictures represent ; in which are
two

two rooms ; the lower has strong thick bars of wood, the upper, iron : in one of which the keeper secures the creature, whilst the other is clean'd, &c. And there are some spare dens, in which are no wild beasts at present.

You first see a fine *Maiden Lioness*, which was a present from the Consul of Algiers ; she is about fourteen years old : Her name is *Jenny*. Se-

Second, another *Lioness*,
from Africa, whose name
is *Phillis*.

Third, a he *Lion*, nam'd
Marco, consort to *Phillis*.
He has majesty in his coun-
tenance that strikes an awe
in the beholders; a grace-
ful mane, of thick, long,
shagg'd hair, ornaments his
strong neck and shoulders:
He has a huge head, and
a prodigious wide mouth,
with frightful teeth; his

Vol. I. c eyes

[34]

LION.



eyes are red, fiery, and sunk deep into his head ; his nose is very large, with wide nostrils : both his sight and smelling are very sharp ; his big-finew'd legs and thighs are strong, like bars of iron ; and his claws, like hooks ; five of which he has upon each foot before, and four on those behind, sheath'd like a cat's ; with which he strikes, and catches his prey like that animal.

His roaring voice is so terrible, that it not only strikes mankind with fear, but all creatures with such surprize, that they dare not stir: he may therefore, with these properties, be justly stil'd the *king of beasts*.

Marco and Phillis are both from the same country as Jenny; and were likewise a present from the consul of Algiers; each of them is about nine years old. This

This royal pair have bred several times in the Tower; they have a young *prince* of two years old, nam'd *Nero*, now to be seen there; besides three young ones, which were brought forth on the 19th day of June, 1740; whom we shall pay our court to before we go.

[38]

L I O N E S S .



The *Lioness* is lesser than the Lion, and has no mane, her body being smother and sleeker: the colour of them both are the same; which is a dun, inclining to a pale yellow, with a darkish cast on the surface.

The fourth animal is a he *Leopard* from the East-Indies, about seven years old: This is a very beautiful

[40]

LEOPARD.



tiful creature, of a yellow colour, finely mark'd with black spots. It is much smaller than any of the Lions or Tigers that are here, nor does it seem so fierce; his name is *Will*.— Now you pass to another yard, where you see

The fifth, which is a she *Panther*, call'd *Jenny*; the hair of this creature is short and mossy, and of a bright yellow, beautifully mark'd with

with round black spots, like the Leopard's, but not quite so full. 'Tis in size, shape, and colour, so much like the Leopard, that when asunder their difference is not easily distinguish'd; and when together, only by nicely observing their spots: Therefore we need not give its figure.

The person who shews these creatures, tells us, that the Panther is produced

duced from the coupling of the Lion and Leopard ; others say, 'tis the he Panther and Lioness which beget the Leopard : but the most probable opinion is, that the Leopard is the male, and the Panther the female, of one and the same species.

The Panther is said to be of a fiercer nature than the Leopard, more greedy of blood, very swift, and catches

catches her prey by leaping upon it suddenly.

Sixth and seventh are a he and she *Tiger* from the South Sea ; they are kept together in one den, and have had several litters of whelps. They have been in the Tower about ten years ; their names are *Will* and *Pbillis* ; and they have a son, whose name is *Dick*, who was bred in the Tower, and is now about
 six

six years old. He had a brother whelp'd with him, who liv'd but a little while. Dick is a beautiful mark'd creature, and finely shap'd ; but stoops a little in his shoulders ; occasion'd by the fall of a table upon his back, when he was at nurse.

The two old ones, Will and Phillis, are mark'd with round spots, like the Leopard ; whereas those
found

[46]

TWO TIGERS.



found in the East-Indies
are streak'd all down their
sides, &c. instead of spots.

The Tiger is shap'd ve-
ry much like the Lioness,
only somewhat lesser, and
has a shorter neck ; but is
bigger than either Leopard
or Panther. Its colour and
spots resemble the Leo-
pard's ; but they have not
near so many, nor are they
so bright and beautiful.

The Tiger is of a very
wild

wild and fierce nature,
 exceeding ravenous, and
 of a prodigious swiftness:
 He spares neither man nor
 beast ; but if he can satisfy
 his hunger with the flesh
 of beasts, he will not attack
 mankind. It is said, that
 this creature is seldom ta-
 ken but in defence of its
 young. These two in the
 Tower sport and play ve-
 ry wantonly together. The
 female is now big with
 young. The

The eighth animal is a *Racoon*, chain'd in the yard, where it has a wooden hutch or box, like a Fox's, to run into when it is minded. It is about the size of the Fox, has a thick fur on his back, sides, &c. of a dark, grizzly colour, with a thick bushy tail. It feeds on flesh, fish, or roots, like the Fox; and seems to partake much of

[50]

RACCOON.



the nature of that crafty creature.

The next are two *Vultures*, in separate wooden cages; the first has been in the Tower twenty years, the second about six. They are both of a colour, which is like that of the Dove; and their size is equal likewise, which is bigger than the Eagle. Their beaks are large, and crooked at the end; their necks, for
 D 2 the

[52]

VULTURE.



the most part bare of feathers. The craw of the Vulture hangs down like a bag before the stomach, or breast ; under the throat it has a space of about an hand breadth, cloathed rather with hairs, like to those of a calf, than feathers ; and the inside of the wings are cover'd with a soft fleece of down, which is peculiar to the Vulture alone, among birds of prey. D 3 It

It is said, that Vultures have an excellent sense of smelling, above all other birds ; so that they can perceive the savour of dead carcasses from a-far : And that from their devouring of dead bodies, they were call'd *living tombs*. They are said to follow armies ; because in their marches a great many men, horses, &c. fall here and there by the way. Job has the like

like description of the Eagle ; — *and where the slain are, there is she,* chap. xxxix. 30.

The antients have delivered, that the Vulture is content only with dead carcases, abstaining from the ravine and slaughter of living animals : but some moderns affirm, that it preys upon living birds, fawns, hares, kids, lambs, &c.

[56]
EAGLE.



The last are *two Eagles* in separate cages; they have been in the Tower about thirty years. They are of a dark brown colour, almost black, unless on the top of their heads, pinnions of their wings, &c. which are of a bright reddish brown; and are therefore called *the brown Eagles*.

For another Three-pence you see the following.

First,

First, young *prince Nero*,
 of two years old, whom
 we just mentioned ; son of
 Marco and Phillis, bred in
 the Tower : he has a fine
 shock'd mane, and is really
 a beautiful creature, and
 exceedingly well educat-
 ed ; for upon my expres-
 sing a desire of visiting
 his lodging, at a word
 speaking, he march'd down
 with great condescension
 from his upper into his
 lower

lower apartment, and gave me the opportunity of entering his den; where, having satisfied my curiosity in viewing his dining room, kitchen, and bed-chamber; his manner of living; particular ceremony in eating, drinking, &c. at my departure from thence he would fain have took me by the hand: But our acquaintance being but slender, I declin'd accepting

cepting so great a mark of his friendship, till I knew him better.

Upon the keeper's putting into his den a piece of lights, he seemingly took very little notice of it, but couch'd down on his belly, with his fore-feet out, like a cat that is going to leap at a mouse; and in an instant gave a sudden spring, from the farthest side of the den, and seiz'd
is

it with amazing fierceness.

My young readers will excuse my not giving them the picture of prince Nero, because he is so like his papa, whose royal visage you may see in page 34, that it would appear almost the same.

Second, a *Lioness*, thirteen years old, bred likewise in the Tower, from a former pair that are now dead:

dead : This is the fiercest
beast in the Tower ; her
name is *Nanny*.

Third, the young he
Tiger, nam'd *Dick*, son
of Will and Phillis ; de-
scribed in pag. 44, 45.

Fourth, a *Porcupine* in
an iron cage. This is one
of the strangest animals in
the world ; its back, sides
and tail, are guarded with
strong quills, each a foot
and half long, all pointed

as

[63]

PORCUPINE.



as sharp as needles, and spotted with black and white: these the creature draws up all together, that they look like so many half-pikes; and stand so distinct, that the skin of the beast may be seen between each; and then suddenly strikes them all back with great force, as if they went with a strong spring; turning her self about at the same time, every way,
to

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rous Snake; to all which tribe 'tis an utter enemy.

Whatever its antipathy may be to the snake kind, to man it seems a very inconsiderable enemy: it is neither very swift, nor fierce; and though it is so well armed, 'tis rather for its own defence, than offence to any other animal.

Its flesh, in those countries where 'tis found, is esteem'd by the natives as

good food. This in the Tower is fed with bread, roots, and fruit: It was brought from the East-Indies.

Fifth, in the same room is a large old *Ape*, which at command does several diverting tricks.

Sixth, an uncommon, large, beautiful *Bird*, called *Warwoven*, or *King* of the *Vawous*. It was brought to the Tower in September

[69]

The A P E.



ber last, and was a present from his grace the Duke of Mountagu. It is somewhat lesser than the Eagle. These kind of birds are found in some parts of the East-Indies.

Lastly, you are shewn the *three young Lions*, which were help'd on the 19th day of *June* 1740. At five weeks old, and likewise at ten, I had them in my lap : they were then
very

[71]

WARWOVEN.



very innocent, and might as safely be handled as ladies lap-dogs. They were indeed somewhat bigger, and not quite so finely shaped: excepting their colour, they were not much unlike young lambs.

Their hair was soft, like fine wool; their colour nearly the same as the old Lions. They are kept in a neat clean room, and for some time fed with warm
milk;

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THREE YOUNG LIONS.



milk ; and are brought to the eating of flesh by degrees. One is a male, whose name is *Pompey* ; the other two are females, one named *Priscilla*, the other *Nell*.

CHAP. IV.

*Histories and Observations
on the Lions in the Tower,
&c.*

Lions, Tigers, Panthers,
and Leopards, are fed
with

with sheeps heads and plucks twice a day ; of which a Lion eats four or five in a day : but Leopards, Panthers, and Tigers, are much fonder of raw dogs-flesh. They are always separated when they eat, or they would quarrel. The wild Lions of Africa are said to prey chiefly upon wild Boars ; which sometimes prove so hard to conquer, that both
have

have been found dead together in their gore. They drink as often as they please, usually several times in a day ; each having a stone trough in his den.

The Lion being an animal of a hot and thirsty nature, was by the antients represented as an emblem, or symbol of sultry weather.

The Tower has been a place for keeping of wild
beasts

beasts in above five hundred years.

On Sunday the 5th of August, 1604. a Lioness, named *Elizabeth*, brought forth a young Lion in the Tower, which young one died the next day. This was the first Lion whelp'd in that place, and probably in England.

The 26th of February following, the same Lioness brought forth another young

young Lion; which by command of King James, was taken from the dam as soon as whelp'd, and nursed by hand: but this also died in about sixteen days.

The greatest age any Lions have been known to live in the Tower, is about twenty years.

The Lion, in the day time, seems to be a very sluggish, heavy animal, that hates to be rous'd, and is
no

no sooner up, but, if suffer'd, will immediately flap down again : Perhaps, in the night they may be otherwise ; it being more natural to them to seek their prey in. The holy Psalmist hath the like observation : *Thou makest darkness, and it is night : wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth. The young Lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat*

*meat from God. The sun
ariseeth, they gather them-
selves together; and lay
them down in their dens.
Psal. civ.*

The Lioness goes with
young exactly four months:
None were ever known to
have more than three at a
litter. They are whelp'd
with their eyes open, and
are taken from the dam
immediately, or they
would perish.

They

They are very tender, and require a great deal of care in nursing; it being exceedingly difficult to bring up a young Lion (and so it is Tigers, &c.) They often die in breeding their teeth, sometimes in strong convulsions. The same is observ'd by the people of Barbary, to happen to the young wild Lions of that country, or they would be much more

numerous than they are in those parts.

Young Lions are kept about twelve months in a warm room, before they are put into dens ; but before they come to that age are chain'd, and are always separated when they eat their victuals. Their savage nature comes on gradually as they grow up, and they are three years a coming to their full growth.

It

It has been the common opinion, that the Lion is afraid of fire: their keepers deny that they are so. One of them, who now attends the wild beasts in the Tower, going one night in the last hard winter to the den of the old Lion, with a lighted candle, held his hand near the bars, to see if the creature was come down into the lower apartment ;

when suddenly he put out his paw, and wounded the man so dangerously in the back of his hand, that he very narrowly escap'd losing it: And this he brings as an instance to shew that they are not afraid of fire.

The Lion often sleeps and snores with his eyes open, and likewise with them shut.

King James the first, being

ing minded to make trial
 of the nature and courage
 of the Lion, and some o-
 ther wild beasts, went to
 the Tower, attended by
 several of the nobility ;
 where he ordered a Lion
 and Lioness to be turned
 out of their dens, and a
 Cock to be cast to them ;
 which they presently kil-
 led, and suck'd its blood.

Next a Lamb was or-
 dered to be put to the n,

which the Lions, out of their generosity, never offer'd to touch, although it went close up to them.

Then two Mastiffs were let loose upon a single Lion, which they presently seized, and turn'd upon his back: and tho' the Lion was superior to them in strength, yet they were his match in courage.

Some time after, a Lion was turned out of his den
to

to a Bear, which had kill'd
a child; but the Lion
would not attack the Bear.

They try'd several other
single Lions, and at length
two together; but all fled
from him, and wanted ra-
ther to get into their dens.

A Stone-horse was put
into the yard with the first
Lion and the Bear; the
Horse, after a little while,
fell to grazing between
them, which they never

[80]
offer'd to touch. After-
wards six Dogs were let
in, who flew upon the
Horse, most in fight at
their first entrance; and
would soon have worried
him to death, had not three
stout fellows enter'd in,
who rescu'd the Horse,
and brought away the
Dogs; while the Lion
and Bear stood staring up-
on them. At this fight
were present King James
the

the first, the Queen, Prince,
and divers of the nobility.

And though the Bear
which kill'd the child
escap'd at this time; he
was afterwards, by com-
mand of the King, baited
to death with Dogs, upon
a stage.

There was a Spaniel
Dog, for some offence, cast
into the Lion's den; but
the Lion did not attempt
to hurt him: and this
Dog

Dog continued in the den
with the Lion several
years, and there died.

The End of the first Book.



BOOK



BOOK II.

CHAP. I.

INTRODUCTION.

From the Lions Tower you pass on over the bridge right before you,

you, when presently you will come to the Warders, who are upon duty at their ward, or gate.

They are easily known by their peculiar dress : Upon their heads they wear flat crown'd caps of black velvet, with a band of ribbons of divers colours. Their coats are scarlet, laced with gold round their skirts, sleeves, and up their sides ; and
round

round their waistes a broad laced belt, with the king's badge of silver, gilt with gold, upon their breasts and backs, representing the Thistle, Rose, and Crown, and G. R. in capitals.

There are forty Warders belonging to the Tower, ten of whom are upon duty at a time. These gentlemen have authority to examine all persons com-

coming into the Tower;
 and one of them will at-
 tend such as are going to
 see the Curiosities, to
 shew and explain them;
 without whose assistance,
 it would be difficult to
 find them out, or to un-
 derstand them rightly.
 For this service, when you
 dismiss the Warder, it is
 customary to give him a
 gratuity, according to your
 own generosity.

The

The chief Curiosities, after you have seen the Lions, &c. (which costs Six-pence each) are,

The Spanish Armada, price Two-pence each.

The small Armoury, price Three-pence each.

The Train of Artillery, price Two-pence each.

The Horse Armoury, price Two-pence each.

The Crown, and the rest of

of *His Majesty's Regalia*,
price One Shilling each.

Note, If any person goes singly, he pays *Eighteen-pence* to see the Regalia ; and to see any of the others, he pays double of the common prices. No person is oblig'd to see all, but only so many of them as he pleases.

Lastly, the *Royal Mint*,
where all the gold, silver,
and

and copper coins, and medals are struck. To see this there is no price demanded, but what you please to give the workmen. This curiosity cannot at all times be shewn: the workmen are not at work, or the favour is not granted; at least to see some part of it, &c.

C H A P. II.

*Of the invincible Spanish
Armada of Philip II.
King of Spain.*

IT may not be improper
to inform my young
readers, that in the year
1588, Philip II. King of
Spain, having prepared a
powerful navy, which
consisted of One hundred
and thirty ships, with
which

which he design'd to invade and conquer England; thought himself so sure of victory, that his fleet was christen'd by the Pope, *The Invincible Armada*; which signifies, a strength that could not be overcome.

The great Queen Elizabeth hearing of this vast armament, instead of being dismay'd, like a valiant Princess, order'd a strong
G 2
fleet

fleet to be fitted out with all possible expedition, and gave the command of it to Sir Francis Drake, and other great and valiant commanders: And notwithstanding the enemy was greatly superior in number and strength of ships, the English engag'd the Spanish fleet upon our own coasts, and after nine or ten days fight, gain'd a most glorious victory, taking,

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SPANISH ARMADA.



ing, burning and sinking eighty of their ships ; in which were killed thirteen thousand five hundred of their men, and above two thousand were taken prisoners.

At this ever memorable victory were taken various instruments of war, with which the Spaniards intended to have tortured the poor English, had they been so unfortunate as to
have

have been overcome by that haughty and cruel nation.

And they are here treasured up as a noble trophy of old English valour ; and are a constant lesson, from generation to generation, to Britain's sons, of what their forefathers did to defend their country against Spanish bondage, and stir them up to emulation.

CHAP. III.

*Of the Arms, &c. taken
from the Spaniards in
Queen Elizabeth's time,
1588; and other curio-
sities.*

YOU are first shewn a
number of *pikes*, each
six yards long, with velvet
holdings about their mid-
dle; the steel points were
gilt with gold, upon some
of

of which the gilding is still visible. The Spanish Dons were so sure of conquest, that they spared no cost in equipping themselves; because they intended the English should pay for all.

Over head hangs a large number of Spanish *pistols* and *targets*, which were the only fire-arms they had then in use; and which were discharg'd with a match: One of these lies
in

in a window below, for the curious to examine.

Next you see a parcel of Spanish *launces*, of a prodigious size, with which those polite people designed, after they had conquered the English, to have bled them with, to prevent their falling into fevers. Queen Elizabeth, being always tender of her subjects, thought those instruments would make too large

large an orifice, therefore order'd them to be disarm'd of such dangerous tools ; which was quickly perform'd by her gallant captains.

Near to the last, are a great many frightful weapons, resembling bill-hooks, but a great deal larger.

Next, a parcel of Spanish *pole-axes*, with three or four tangs at one end ;
at

at the other a sharp point.

Then you are shewn a small train of *Artillery*, consisting of about ten pretty little *cannon* in carriages ; all ranged in beautiful order : They were a present from the city of London to King Charles the first, when he was a child, for him to learn the art of war by.

Two of the *Danes clubs*, each six foot long ; desperate

rate weapons. These, we are told, are of great antiquity, and that they have been in the Tower ever since it was built. The people whose custody they are now in, call them the *womens weapons*; because, they say, in those times, above eight hundred years ago, the women conspired against the Danes, and destroy'd thirty thousand, by cutting their throats, &c.
for

for which reason, they tell you, the women have ever since had the wall of the man, the upper end of the table, and the first cut.

Next, a cruel instrument called a *Spanish cravat*; with which those people design'd to torture the English. In this their necks, hands and feet were to be confin'd, in such a barbarous manner, that the poor sufferers must have undergone

gone the most exquisite tortures; till either they were starv'd to death, or expir'd thro' pain of their great torment.

Near to the last stands a *shield*, made of the skin of a Rhinoceros; which was a present from the great Mogul to King Henry the seventh.

Three antient Spanish *spados*, or *swords*, of different sizes.

Some

Some of the first chain-shot, said to be invented by Admiral Drake, for tearing of rigging, &c.

Here is likewise shewn an ill shap'd, old *axe*; the same with which Anne of Bullen was beheaded, by order of King Henry the eighth: She was mother to Queen Elizabeth. And with the same axe the Earl of Essex was beheaded in Queen Elizabeth's time.

Near



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